

## **REMARKS**

Claims 1-19 remain in the application for consideration of the Examiner.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and objections are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and following remarks.

Turning now to the art rejections, Claims 1-4 and 11-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Shier in view of Ramalho; and Claims 5, 6, 8, 10, 15, 16, and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Shier and Ramalho in view of Chiou.

These rejections are respectfully traversed.

It is respectfully submitted that Shier does not disclose or suggest the presently claimed invention including the pre-drive circuit including a first voltage follower device coupled in a cascade arrangement to a second voltage follower device in independent Claims 1 and 11.

Applicants agree with the Examiner that Shier fails to disclose the pre-drive circuit having a pair of voltage follower circuits in cascade arrangement.

It is respectfully submitted that Ramalho does not disclose or suggest the presently claimed invention including the pre-drive circuit including a first voltage follower device coupled in a cascade arrangement to a second voltage follower device in independent Claims 1 and 11.

The Examiner alleges that Ramalho discloses a pair of voltage follower devices in a cascade arrangement as claimed in elements 10A and 10B.

It is respectfully submitted that elements 10A and 10B are voltage follower devices however, these are not connected in cascade arrangement as now required by the presently claimed invention.

Whether or not Chiou discloses a reference circuit coupled to the pre-drive circuit and whether one of ordinary skill in the art would consider modifying Shier and Ramalho is of no moment since the resulting construction would still in no way disclose or suggest the presently claimed invention.

Applicants appreciate the indication that if Claims 7 and 17 were rewritten in independent form including the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims that these claims would be allowable.

By the instant amendment, Claims 7 and 17 have been placed in independent form.

Applicants additionally appreciate the indication that Claim 19 is allowed.

In light of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

While it is believed that the instant response places the application in condition for allowance, should the Examiner have any further comments or suggestions, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned in order to expeditiously resolve any outstanding issues.

To the extent necessary, Applicant petitions for an Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any fees in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Texas Instruments Incorporated, Account No. 20-0668.

Respectfully submitted,



W. Daniel Swayze, Jr.  
Attorney for Applicant  
Reg. No. 34,478

Texas Instruments Incorporated  
P.O. Box 655474, MS 3999  
Dallas, TX 75265  
(972) 917-5633